

United States Treasury Frauds Exposed.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

April 28, 1880.—Ordered to be printed. December 17, 1880.—Ordered to be reprinted.

MR. DAVIS, of West Virginia, from the Select Committee to Investigate the Finance Reports, Books and Accounts of the Treasury Department, submitted the following report:

(No. 1.—Continued from last week.)

REGISTER THE OFFICIAL BOOK-KEEPER OF THE GOVERNMENT.

The register is the official book-keeper of the government, and no money can lawfully go into or out of the treasury unless upon warrants passing through the register's office, and yet a secretary of the treasury ordered the register to change his official statements to congress and enforced the order against the protest of the register, the changes involving many millions of dollars and covering a long series of years. The register's duty to make full and truthful official statements is as old as the government, while statements from the office of the secretary in this regard were never issued until 1870, the bureau taking charge of that subject not having been actually established till a comparatively recent period, and not having been recognized by law till 1875, by what is known as the Kellogg amendment to an appropriation bill, March 3, 1875.

DIFFERENCES IN SECRETARY'S AND REGISTER'S STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The differences in the respective statements are shown by the following table, which, with the testimony of Mr. Woodville explaining it, is here inserted (see testimony, pages 11 and 12):

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. Give the heading of statement F.—A. "Statement of the public debt." The statements referred to by Mr. Woodville are as follows:

STATEMENT F.—PREPARED BY SENATE COMMITTEE ON TREASURY ACCOUNTS.

Secretary's and Register's tabulated statements of the public debt for the fiscal years 1833 to 1870, inclusive.

Copied from the Finance Reports of 1870 to 1871.

Year.	Secretary's statement, Finance Report, 1870, page xxv.	Register's statement, Finance Report, 1870, page 276.	Secretary's compared with register's.		Register's statement, Finance Report, 1871, page 368.	Year.
			Increase.	Decrease.		
1833	\$ 7,001,698 83	\$ 7,001,698 83	\$ 665 05	\$	\$ 7,001,698 83	1833
1834	4,700,082 08	4,700,082 08	1 00	.....	4,700,082 08	1834
1835	37,513 09	351,389 05	.....	313,775 96	37,513 05	1835
1836	336,937 83	291,089 05	45,848 78	.....	336,937 83	1836
1837	3,308,124 07	1,878,223 55	1,429,900 52	.....	3,308,124 07	1837
1838	10,434,221 14	4,467,690 46	5,976,590 68	.....	10,434,221 14	1838
1839	3,573,343 82	11,983,737 53	.....	8,410,393 71	3,573,343 82	1839
1840	5,250,875 54	5,125,077 63	126,797 91	.....	5,250,875 54	1840
1841	13,594,480 73	9,737,398 00	3,857,082 73	.....	13,594,480 73	1841
1842	20,611,228 28	15,018,486 37	5,592,741 91	.....	20,611,228 28	1842
1843	32,742,922 14	27,393,454 69	5,349,467 45	.....	32,742,922 14	1843
1844	23,461,652 50	24,748,188 23	.....	1,286,535 73	23,461,652 50	1844
1845	15,925,303 01	17,093,794 80	.....	1,168,491 79	15,925,303 01	1845
1846	15,550,292 97	16,754,926 33	.....	1,204,633 36	15,550,292 97	1846
1847	38,826,534 77	38,268,623 38	.....	557,911 39	38,826,534 77	1847
1848	47,044,862 23	48,526,379 37	.....	1,481,517 14	47,044,862 23	1848
1849	63,061,858 69	64,704,693 71	.....	1,642,835 02	63,061,858 69	1849
1850	63,452,773 55	64,228,238 37	.....	775,464 82	63,452,773 55	1850
1851	68,304,796 02	62,560,335 26	5,744,460 76	.....	68,304,796 02	1851
1852	66,199,341 71	65,131,692 13	1,067,649 58	.....	66,199,341 71	1852
1853	59,813,117 70	67,340,628 78	.....	7,527,511 08	59,813,117 70	1853
1854	42,242,222 42	47,242,206 05	.....	4,999,983 63	42,242,222 42	1854
1855	35,586,936 56	39,969,731 05	.....	4,382,794 49	35,586,936 56	1855
1856	31,972,537 90	30,963,969 64	1,008,568 26	.....	31,972,537 90	1856
1857	28,699,831 85	29,060,386 90	.....	360,555 05	28,699,831 85	1857
1858	44,911,881 03	44,910,777 66	1,103 37	.....	44,911,881 03	1858
1859	58,496,837 88	54,754,699 33	.....	3,742,138 55	58,496,837 88	1859
1860	64,842,287 88	64,799,703 08	72,584 80	.....	64,842,287 88	1860
1861	90,580,873 72	90,867,828 68	.....	286,954 96	90,580,873 72	1861
1862	924,176,412 13	514,211,371 92	9,955,040 21	.....	924,176,412 13	1862
1863	1,119,772,138 63	1,094,793,181 37	20,978,957 26	.....	1,119,772,138 63	1863
1864	1,815,784,370 57	1,746,690,489 49	75,093,881 08	.....	1,815,784,370 57	1864
1865	2,680,647,869 74	2,612,593,626 53	.....	1,944,156 79	2,680,647,869 74	1865
1866	2,773,236,173 69	2,783,425,879 21	.....	10,189,705 52	2,773,236,173 69	1866
1867	2,678,126,103 87	2,694,199,215 12	.....	14,073,111 25	2,678,126,103 87	1867
1868	2,611,987,851 19	2,636,320,964 07	.....	24,333,113 48	2,611,987,851 19	1868
1869	2,258,452,213 94	2,489,062,450 58	.....	230,610,236 64	2,258,452,213 94	1869
1870	2,480,612,427 81	2,386,358,699 74	94,253,728 07	.....	2,480,612,427 81	1870
Total...	\$20,233,161,879 33	\$19,965,393,537 67	\$322,843,895 64	\$85,076,553 88	\$20,233,161,879 33	
	19,965,393,537 67	.....	85,076,553 88	.....	19,965,393,537 67	
Difference.	\$ 247,767,341 66	.....	\$247,767,341 66	.....	\$ 247,767,341 66	
Difference, or increase, in Secretary's statement, as compared with register's statement			\$247,767,341 66			

LARGE INCREASE IN THE STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

This table is taken from the official finance reports of 1870 and 1871, and makes a comparison between the secretary's and the register's statements for the various years named. The secretary's table, which appears in the finance report for the first time in 1870, shows a large increase of the public debt over the statement of the register's. In 1870, by order of the secretary, the register's office went back nearly forty years and changed the statement for each year from 1833 to 1870, largely increasing the amount of the public debt statement; for the year 1862, \$10,000,000 in round numbers; for the year 1863, \$20,000,000; for 1864, \$75,000,000, while for 1865, 1866, 1867 and 1868 there is a total decrease of about \$25,000,000, and an increase for 1869 of \$90,000,000, and for 1870 of \$94,000,000, or nearly \$100,000,000 in each of the latter years. Notwithstanding these large differences between the statements of the secretary and register in the official reports of 1870, the finance report of 1871 as made to congress is found to contain agreeing statements from the secretary and the register by the register changing and increasing his amounts so as to correspond with those of the secretary, and these changes and increases still exist. It is a fact well established that all official reports to congress made previous to 1870 by the secretary and register substantially agree, and were many millions less than as now reported in the finance reports.

FINANCE REPORTS OF 1870 AND 1871.

Assistant Register Titcomb's testimony contains the following (see testimony, pages 18 and 19):

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. I hand you the finance reports of 1870 and 1871, and call your attention to the tabulated statements made by the register. Be kind enough to look at them both.—A. I see them.

Q. These are the tabulated statements made by the register for 1870 and 1871?—A. They are.

Q. Do they agree in figures?—A. I see that for the year 1870 they do not agree.

Q. What difference is there?—A. Some \$96,000,000 difference.

Q. Are there any other years for which they do not agree?—A. They do not agree for 1869.

Q. What is the difference there, in round numbers?—A. One hundred million dollars.

Q. Follow it on further.—A. For 1868 there appears to be a difference of about \$25,000,000.

Q. State which is the largest in amount, the 1870 or 1871 statement?—A. The 1871 statement.

Q. You have stated three years; one amounting to \$90,000,000, another to nearly \$100,000,000, another for nearly \$25,000,000. Are there not other years where the amounts do not agree in these two reports?—A. Yes, sir; the years immediately preceding those years.

Q. How far back do the tables in the two reports differ?—A. Without examining each item, I see that a difference occurs in 1833. That is apparently the first year.

Q. And there are more or less differences from 1833 down to 1870, according to these reports?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then I understand you that neither the report of 1870, the report of 1871, nor the pamphlet, all issued by the register, agree in the amounts as to the total of the public debt?—A. So it appears.

By MR. BECK:

Q. Had not all the annual reports of the various registers of the treasury made prior to the report of 1871 agreed substantially with each other as to the public debt of the United States for each year?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Since 1871-72 does not each annual report substantially adopt the previous report for all except the year with which it deals?—A. I believe so.

Q. So that in fact the material changes, whether they were the system or what not, that occurred, occurred between 1869 and 1871?—A. I think they occurred in 1871 exclusively, with the exception of a blunder in this tabulated statement which was made by Mr. Nevin—he did not know how to make it—the blunder of deducting the cash in the treasury.

By MR. ALLISON:

Q. In answer to Senator Beck you say that the reports for 1870, and prior years, from the register's office, substantially agree as to the public debt; you also say that the reports of 1871, and subsequent years, substantially agree?—Yes, sir.

Q. Now, will you state briefly whether or not the mode of stating the debt in the register's office was the same for 1870 and prior years as for 1871 and subsequent years, and, if not, state the difference?—A. The mode of stating it was different. There was a change in the mode of stating the debt.

Q. When?—A. After 1870.

(To be continued.)

From Massachusetts.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:—I was proud to vote for Weaver and Field here in Massachusetts, though we were looked on with contempt by those whose partisan zeal prevented them from looking for the facts. We think we have polled alone 5,000 votes. I was sick for five weeks before election and only able to get one to vote, but how often while shaking with chills and fever, did I long to be in Kansas in the thickest of the fight. In the name of the brave voters in the east who voted for the new party of equality and justice, allow me to congratulate the ADVOCATE AND TRIBUNE on the splendid

victory it has been largely instrumental in winning. I look forward every week to the arrival of your paper with eagerness. You cannot imagine the Egyptian darkness as regards the aims and purposes of the People's party in which everybody east is enveloped. I wish I could be with you in the grand work that is just opening upon you. Keep our motto, "Equality and Justice," before the people. GEORGE M. STEARNS. November 14.

When Stiggins died from cholera, brought on by eating rhubarb pie, the physicians solemnly decided that he died of too much pie-eat-ee.

The Best Baking Powder

AND MOST ECONOMICAL,

Is that of Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder. It is prepared with greater care and accuracy, from finer and more expensive materials, competent chemists test every ingredient nothing is left to chance. No ammonia, alum or other adulterant taints this purest of human food products. Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder is the embodiment of all the excellence that it is possible to attain. It is always uniform and reliable and retains its full strength until used. It is not only more economical because of its wonderful raising power, but by reason of its greater bulk, the cans being much larger than the ordinary kind; it will go farther and do better work. It never disappoints. Dr. Price's is the only baking powder that contains the whites of eggs.